



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: January 6, 2015

To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral to: Honorable John Quincy, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Request for Proposals for Public Art for Nicollet Mall**

Recommendation:

Authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for artists to design new artworks to be integrated into the New Nicollet Mall.

Previous Directives:

June 27, 2014 - Approved the concept for the Nicollet Mall and a project budget of \$50,000,000. Accepted a \$21,500,000 grant from the State of Minnesota, and authorized the proper City officers to, upon satisfactory review by the City Attorney's Office, execute a grant agreement with the State of Minnesota for acceptance of grant funds of up to \$21,500,000, subject to the City's approval of special assessments in the amount of \$25,000,000. The grant and matching funds will be used for the Nicollet Mall.

August 8, 2007 - Adoption of Public Art Policies including policies for artist selection, design development and community engagement.

Department Information

Prepared by: Mary Altman, Public Arts Administrator, 612-673-3006

Approved by: _____
Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Mary Altman, Public Arts Administrator
David Frank, Transit Oriented Development Director

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval X Date: December 4, 2014
- Civil Rights Approval Approval X Date: December 8, 2014

Financial Impact

- Action is within the Business Plan

Community Impact

City Goals - Great Places: Natural and built spaces work together and our environment is protected.

Supporting Information

The City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Downtown Council are working together to design and rebuild Nicollet Mall.

Nicollet Mall currently features the largest collection of public and private artworks in Minneapolis, with the exception of the Walker Art Center's Sculpture Garden. The majority of the collection includes artworks owned by the City that were commissioned as part of the renovation of the Mall in the late 1980's. These works represent some of the most important artists working in the region at that time from a range of cultural backgrounds. These works were also designed to be integrated into the 1980's Mall's design and material-palette. Also underway, is a concurrent process for considering which of these works to retain on the Mall and which to remove, with recommendations planned to come before the City Council in Spring 2015.

As part of the development of a new Mall design, Public Works and CPED staff propose to commission new works that complement the new Mall design, and represent the diverse range of public artists of this generation. The project's goals are to commission new works of art that:

- Are stimulating and contribute to the Mall's reputation as a national destination.
- Engage adults and children at both large scale and detailed (intimate) levels.
- Contribute to Mall's vitality and attract visitors.
- Represent the best creative ideas and the range of cultural communities in the City.
- Are compatible with the Mall design and current collection and the needs of the businesses and residents.
- Are durable and maintainable in the long term.

Nicollet Mall Public Art Committee

A Public Art Committee is being created for the purpose of overseeing the process, finalizing the artist opportunities, selecting artists and reviewing draft design concepts. In accordance with City Public Art Policy, this committee will include a(an):

- Artist
- Arts Administrator
- Project Architect
- Arts Commissioner
- Site Representative (Implementation Committee Representative)
- Public Works Staff Member
- Community Representative
- 2 At Large Members

Draft Artist Opportunities

These draft opportunities were reviewed by the Nicollet Mall Implementation Committee at their November 2014 meeting, and will be finalized by the Public Art Committee in January of 2015.

- Lead a Team of Local and Emerging Artists to Create Series of Small Integrated Works (\$200,000)
- Create a Large-Scale Iconic Artwork (\$500,000)
- Design a Key Feature (i.e. Theater in the Round) (\$225,000)
- Curate/Integrate all Public Art into overall Mall Design (\$75,000)

Draft Timeline

January 26, 2015	RFP issued
February 27, 4:00 p.m.	Deadline for submissions
Week of April 13	Artist presentations/interviews/selection
May 2015	Request to council to issue contracts with selected artists
November 2015	Final design concept
February 2016	Fabrication contracts issued
March 2016	Fabrication begins
Concurrent with Mall Schedule	Installation

cc: Craig Taylor, CPED Director
Kjersti Monson, Long Range Planning Director
Jack Byers, Long Range Planning Manager